

IN THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Claims 1-12 (canceled)

13. (Currently amended) An internal combustion engine, comprising: at least one cylinder head having a housing; an injector provided in the housing so as to inject fuel; a wire harness for transmitting signals from an electronic controller to the injector, the wire harness including a first section extending from the electronic controller to the cylinder head housing and a second section extending from the cylinder head housing to the injector; and means for connecting the first section to the second section of the wire harness, the connecting means including a terminal carrier and a boot, ~~both the terminal carrier and the boot~~ having self-locking means formed as a latching lobe that engages on the cylinder head housing so that by which the terminal carrier is locked and the boot lock themselves in place, the boot having self-locking means that engages on the terminal carrier, wherein the terminal carrier comprises a terminal and a cover, wherein the terminal comprises a compression spring for exerting a clamping force, and a conductor strip, the second section of the wire harness is permanently connected to the conductor strip of the terminal carrier, wherein wires, with insulation removed, of the first section of the wire harness are detachably connected to the terminal carrier by the compression spring and the conductor strip.

14. (Currently amended) The internal combustion engine according to claim 13, wherein the terminal carrier has a circumferential groove and the self locking means of the boot corresponds to is a latching ring that engages in the

groove of the terminal carrier.

15. (Currently amended) The internal combustion engine according to claim 13, wherein the terminal carrier has eyes and the self-locking means of the boot ~~corresponds to a~~ includes latching ~~lobe~~ lobes that engage in the eyes of the terminal carrier.

Claims 16-21 (canceled)

22. (Previously presented) The internal combustion engine according to claim 13, wherein the terminal carrier has a circumferential groove to accept a sealing ring.

23. (Previously presented) The internal combustion engine according to claim 13, and further comprising a corrugated hose between the first section of the wire harness and the boot.

24. (Canceled)

25. (Canceled)

26. (Currently amended) A process for installing a connecting means having a terminal carrier and a boot in an internal combustion engine, both the terminal carrier and the boot having self-locking mechanism by which the terminal carrier and the boot lock themselves in place in a cylinder head housing, the process comprising the steps of: fixing the terminal carrier in place on the cylinder head housing by the self-locking mechanism; bringing a second section of a wire harness into contact with an injector; connecting a first section of the wire harness to the terminal carrier; and fixing the boot in place on the terminal

carrier by the self-locking mechanism.

27. (Previously presented) The process according to claim 26, including permanently connecting the second section of the wire harness to a conductor strip of the terminal carrier.

28. (Previously presented) The process according to claim 26, including detachably connecting the first section of the wire harness to the terminal carrier (8).

29. (New) The internal combustion engine according to claim 14, wherein the boot consists of two L-shaped boot parts that are connected together by a plastic hinge.